SYDNEY OLYMPIC SOCCER F.C.

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OFFICIAL PROGRAMME

PRATTEN PARK

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SUNDAY, 26TH AUGUST, 1979

A.E.K. SOUVENIR PHOTOS

The Greek champions, A.E.K. on arrival at Mascot Airport from Adelaide in Thursday week.

PRICE 20c

SYDNEY OLYMPIC v CANBERRA CITY

SYDNEY OLYMPIC
(Dark Blue & White)

1. PETER WILSON
3. BILLY PALMER
4. RICHARD BELL
5. KENNY WILSON
6. MIKE CROSS
7. DEREK LAING
8. PETER RASKOPOULOS
14. GRAHAM JENNINGS
12. MARK KOUSAS
13. IAN ROWDEN
10. CLIVE EATON
2. DAVID McINTOSH
18. ANDY SCOTT
1. GARY MEIER

Manager JOHN XIPOLITAS

CANBERRA CITY
(Gold Strip with Blue stripes)

1. STEVE HOSZOWSKI
2. DANNY MOULIS
3. MIKE MILOVANOVIC
14. ISSAC FARRELL
16. JOHN BROWN
6. LUIS SALGADO
17. DON MACLAREN
18. JIMMY CANT
9. TERRY BYRNE
10. JOHNNY DAVIES
12. KENI KAWALEVA
13. GEORGE BAILEY
4. STEVEN HOGG

Manager VICTOR FERNANDEZ

The Greek Gladiators being led into the arena by A.E.K.'s Captain Lakis Nicolaou followed by Bajevic and Tasos.

CANBERRA CITY

Today we welcome Canberra City, one of the two "babies" of the P.S.L. Although Canberra City was the newcomer to big time football in the P.S.L., they made a big impression on the scene in their first year. Firstly they had at their disposal one of Australia's best stadiums made available to them, the modern Bruce Stadium that had just been recently completed for the Commonwealth Games. Secondly they acquired for themselves a most lucrative sponsor in Canberra's leading Ford Dealer, Bruce Pollock. President for the first year was David Dillon with Canberra's effervesent Greek, Theo Moulis as Vice President. Canberra City enlisted the services of Johnny Warren as their first ever coach, and Warren set out to build a team from scratch. He had nothing to start with and thus embarked on a youth policy which slowly but surely paid dividends. Amongst his youth material, he signed up Steven Hogg, Danny Moulis and skilfull youngster Mike Milovanovic. All three two years later impressed our National coach Rudi Gutendorf to the extent that he selected them in his National Squad. Today, all these youngsters have proved themselves as a sound investment for Canberra. As I mentioned above, Warren had nothing to start with in Canberra when he arrived on the scene, but with an enormous amount of help from some very dedicated people that he got involved with, they all helped him to pioneer Canberra's first ever big time soccer Club. The Club in it's first season, enjoyed some very healthy crowds which made other Clubs throughout Australia most envious. Only Newcastle was able to draw more spectators through their turnstiles. Sydney Olympic's record against this Canberra outfit has been as follows:

1977 Round 1. In Sydney 2 all draw.
Round 2. In Canberra, we lost 4 all.
1978 Round 1. In Sydney, we lost 2-1.
Round 2. In Canberra, we won 3-1.
1979 Round 1. In Canberra we won 3-1.

So from the above 5 scorelines, the honours are evenly split. Today we welcome Canberra City for the first time on our home ground Pratten Park.

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A.E.K. IN SYDNEY

The Greek Champion Team flew into Sydney last Thursday week by TAA after defeating South Australia by 1goal to nil. From the airport the Greek contingent was moved to the Travelodge at Camperdown where they made it their base.

I escorted the Team during their entire stay in Sydney till the moment they left us last Monday, morning to fly back South to Melbourne to play an exhibition game with Heidelberg, last Wednesday night. So I will give you a very brief reg'me of my experience with A.E.K.

Starting with the "brass", there was their Tour Leader ("Arhigos") Mr. Lalos, a short, intelligent authoritive commandant. He was soon known as "Billy Bremner,,. Then with him was the Vice President of A.E.K. Mr. Nikolopoulos a most natured man with equal high intelligence, however much more silent. Along with them, were two press and T.V. Sports commentators from Athens. Then we come to the female section. Two ladies travelled with the party. The first was Mrs. Barlou, a most stunning looking lady of very high class, education and character. She is the wife of the Greek Millionaire Mr. Barlou who virtually finances the entire A.E.K. Club. During her entire stay in Sydney, she exhibited immense elegance and class. With her travelling companion, Mrs. Michalopoulou, they added a touch of glamour to the contingent. Mrs Olga Constantine, our President's wife, aided me in my duties by entertaining the ladies during their stay in Sydney. Olga took them sight seeing all over Sydney as well as covering the Zoo. They were very impressed to say the least. Thank you Olga very much. You were well appreciated to say the least. Then we come to the players. It would take me at least 15 pages to go into detail individually to cover the whole squad, so very briefly I will highlight some of the players make up. Overall, the squad's behaviour was nothing short of EXCELLENT. For their entire stay at the Travelodge at Camperdown, in the capable hands of the Manager Richard Cogswell and his most efficient Office Manageress Wendy Harte, both were satisfied with the whole Greek Party's behaviour. This with travelling football teams throughout the World is NOT a common factor To you Richard and Wendy, thank you for the professional attention you gave our Greek "cousins" during their stay in Sydney. They were extremely pleased with your entire set- up. As I said before, I will highlight some of the players. Obviously the biggest name in the squad, was Domazos. He is a ball of fire for a little guy. He is always on the look-out for where the action is. His little frame is seen strutting quickly around the place looking to see "what's cooking". A true "rager" as they say. The two Yugoslavs, Bajevic and Vladic, sit silently observing everything that moves. Constantly aware of all movements, but just 'hang-back off centre' The most serious player in A.E.K. by far, has to be Nicos Christidis the National Goalkeeper who is intelligent, most observant with a character of a high level. Christidis is a very quiet dignified player. Another player to impress me immensely, was No 11, Tasos, very intelligent, and easily the most sensitive, gentle and sentimental lad by far. Character, excellent. His quietness is most deceptive in a game.

Last Sunday, he was marked by NSW's Paul Degney and repeatedly throughout the match Tasos was "free" and always positioned to "take" a ball from a player that was under pressure. His intelligence repeatedly showed out as time after time he beat his opponent with pure skilful intelligent play. No pace, roughness or aggressiveness is in this player, only gentle, deceptive, skilfull constructiveness. As a lesson to our players, Tasos possesses a quality that all excellent players have "peripheral vision". Like all the A.E.K. players, Tasos loves Greek Music, and by far his idol in this field is Parios. Tasos, Sydney and I, will never forget you. You are a magnificent credit to your Club and Cyprus your Country. Moving along, we come to "Babis" Intzoglou the "Bob Hope" for the lads. A good natured lad that is always on the look-out for a laugh but most serious at training and in big matches. As we remember, it was Intzoglou who came up from defence to slot A.E.K.'s 1st goal after the Greeks were

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A.E.K. IN SYDNEY (cont.)

down 2 nil, and to start the long overhaul to recovery from the brink of certain defeat by NSW. Another colourful player is Christos Ardizoglou who remains silent for ages, but when he starts, he runs full steam in conversation. I would give him the title of "Mr Fashion". When I first saw him coming off the plane at Mascot, I thought he was a gear steward at the very most. Last Sunday we saw what a dangerous hard skilfull striker this character is. If he played here in our P.S.L. "Mr Fashion" would be a sensational smash hit. Off the pitch he would also be a riot at our local Discos. The baby of the Team is young Spyros Ikonomopoulos the reserve goalkeeper who was born in Sydney and stands at 6'2". At training he is showing very good potential, good safe hands, courage and agility. All basic qualities for a good 'keeper. His heighth is an asset for the crosses.

Last but not least, we come to Herman Stessel. A.E.K.'s Austrian International who has played with Leo Baumgartner and Herbert Ninaus back in Austria. He is a true very steady professional. A man of many qualities, very quiet, shows very little emotions but simultaneously is most humane. He gives full respect first, before he asks for it in return. I had many serious discussions with him and found him very high in intelligence, concentrates hard on what you say to him, and is most exact in his answers. Stessel is a very good coach, and will be around for a long time, however, I detected a sense of vulnerability as to his position with A.E.K. for this new season, as his task is enormously difficult because of the language barrier that exists between he and his squad. All the players showed very high respect towards him, but let's be honest he is only new with A.E.K. and it is very "early days" yet to assume that this will be a successful combination. Everything will depend upon the players' attitude and concentration that they give him, and above all, the very backing that the A.E.K. Directors exhibit. This is NOT a unique situation. A team coach situat'on, even without a language barrier, will decay and collapse if the respect, attitude etc. is not present. Make no mistake, Stessel has the goods, but can his men "deliver" them. You can lead a donkey to the well, but as far as drinking at the well... well that's another game, isn't it?

Herman Stessel, I was very honoured to meet you, talk to you and eventually win your friendship. A.E.K. the Greeks from Sydney, wish you well for your coming season. Thank you for coming and entertaining us. "Isaste omorfi".

Sydney Olympic Club President John Constantine with Mrs Balou and A.E.K. Tour Leader Mr Lalos, receiving a momento from our Club to take back to Athens.

LIVERPOOL CORNER

Last Sunday morning, prior to the A.E.K. match at the Sports Ground, Sydney Olympic's "Johnny X" with "Chicago", organised a wonderful Bar-B.Q. for our PSL Squad at Centennial Park. A good time was had by all. There was stacks to eat and drink, so much so, that half of the squad could not make it to the game that afternoon.

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Last Sunday week (morning) Sydney Olympic arranged a trial game with Sydney City at Wentworth Park. Full time score was 1 nil in Olympic's favour.

Raskopoulos scored the winning goal with a strong chip to the top left hand corner, Jamieson made his first grade come-back in this game and went extremely well. Surprisingly his condition was quite satisfactory considering he had played the day before as well in the Federation 1st Team.

During the game, we saw some excellent balls from "Ipswitch" especially when he repeatedly switched play to the left flank and backed up through the middle to collect the cut-backs.

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Our reserve goalkeeper, Andy Mandridis last week was pleasantly surprised when his wife presented him with a brand new baby girl. Only just days before our other goalkeeper Gary Meir took possession of another newly born baby, but this time a boy. Again congratulations to both goalkeepers and their wives.

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Sydney Olympic defender Paul Luckett has been training with St. George over the last few weeks and from reports has been going very well. However, because all transfer dates have closed Paul cannot play for St. George.

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The elegant, intelligent and extremely skilfull A.E.K. striker, Tasos, was sounding me out when he was here in Sydney with his team last week as to what the local Soccer environment is like for a professional player like himself. He showed some interest for the future as far as playing in Australia with a Club. Believe me he would be a smash hit out here. Just his creativeness alone would be worth a goal a game.

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The A.E.K. Squad and their officials were entertained back at our Club after the NSW game on Sunday night. They ate, drank and danced and they unanimously said at the end of the evening that it was by far the very best night that they had since coming to Australia. All members were presented with a Club tie, a Club badge, and Mrs. Balos, A.E.K.'s President's wife, was presented with a Sydney Olympic P.S.L. Mirror to take to Greece. Knowing the type of music that the A.E.K. Squad likes, the Club's band proceeded to play and sing a long bracket of Parios' songs. Again they were pleased.

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English 1st Division Soccer at long last has started and once again Liverpool has started in excellent fashion by knocking off Arsenal (F.A. Cup Winners) by 3-1 in the Charity Shield. Let's be honest, what a team really.

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Today we play our last game here at Pratten Park for the 1979 season. We have to vacate the Oval because the ground has to be prepared for the cricket season. Barton Park and Wentworth Park are the likely venues for our remaining home games.

N.S.W. vs A.E.K. MATCH REPORT

Last Sunday at the Sports Ground, Soccer fans were treated to some sparkling open, skilfull Soccer. This will be a match that I will remember for a long time.

It was full of of excitment, colour, skill and most of all open attacking football. I am sure that all fans left the ground fully entertained, which is what Soccer is all about.ffi I personally was disappointed by Domazos, even though I was the only person at the Sports Ground to be disappointed by him. Every press-man had good words to say about his game. I will explain disappointment. Firstly I must admit I have seen Domazos only twice in my life: the first time was at Wembley in the night game against Ajax of Holland in the European Cup Final played June 2, 1971. In that game he continually turned Ajax inside out, sending excellent crosses from the right flank, floating them over to centre - box for Antoniadis. The second match of course was last Sunday. He made two errors that to me are unforgiveable, even though I realise he was taking risks to entertain the crowd with fancy football. However, the first blunder was in the 49th second after kick-off, when Domazos standing in his own "box" back-heeled the ball without looking to his 'keeper, which was most readily caught by Hall, who pushed it wide for Raskopoulos to slot NSW first goal. Had it been a junior player doing this, his coach would have killed him. Then secondly, 25 minutes later, he was receiving a ball from the left flank (high cross) which he could have "killed," turned, and pushed it into net from 10 metres out: instead again he went for the spectacular, attempting an overhead scissors which of course went screaming over the bar by 5 metres. So by these two factors only I was disappointed as I sized them up as actions from an exhibitionist which of course there is no denying. However, the rest of his play was very good. But for me, the stars were the players who were creative and unselfish. I was extremely excited by Tasos, Ardizoglou, Bajevic, Intzoglou and the Greek Captain, Doctor Lakis Nicolaou. Ardizoglou has been called the Greek "George Best." Not far wrong I can assure you. Fabulous ball control and balance. Henderson didn't know what hit him. Intzoglou never failed to win a ball in defence and release it with accuracy. Bajevic was all skill, relaxed and unconquerable. His penalty was excellent; Woodhouse was sent the "wrongway". Lakis, the Captain continually left the defence and played his way up front over and over again. He was criticised by a large section of the crowd in front of the press-box for this "free-play." Well what the hell; A.E.K. was 2 goals down, and it was ridiculous for the Greeks to close up. Thus he as skipper, battled out from the "back-four" to create and support the attack. Brilliant stuff. A ball-playing stopper I have not seen for years. The last one I saw was Arsenal's skipper, Scottish Frank McKlintock. Woodhouse had just saved a shot that was too "hot" to hold from Ardizoglou, and it was cleared out over the Greek strikers and mid-field, but Lakis reading well, raced upfield and from 40 metres out, cracked a rocket smashing ball that lifted and "dipped" as it approached the bar. Woodhouse was shaking for 2 minutes after just saving for a corner.

The grandstands were electrified with wild Greek supporters screaming with excitement.

Again and again the Greeks came forward wave after wave of attacking Soccer. Even after wiping out the debit balance of 2 goals and they hit the front, they did NOT close up the game but kept up the skills. Last I have left "Mr. Nice Guy," the highly skilfull, extremely intelligent, elegant Cypriot striker, Tasos. What a helluva player. Brrrilliant. So quiet and completely unnoticeable all the time except to his inside strikers. Every time one looked for him, he was "free" to "take" the ball. Never did he "take" a ball with a man-on him. Never did he take a ball and race like an idiot without knowing EXACTLY where he was going and how to "finish" the "break". Both Degney and Souness were "gone" as time after time, Tasos beat them with elegant "skill and intelligence. This was just "champagne soccer". Tasos is so decept-

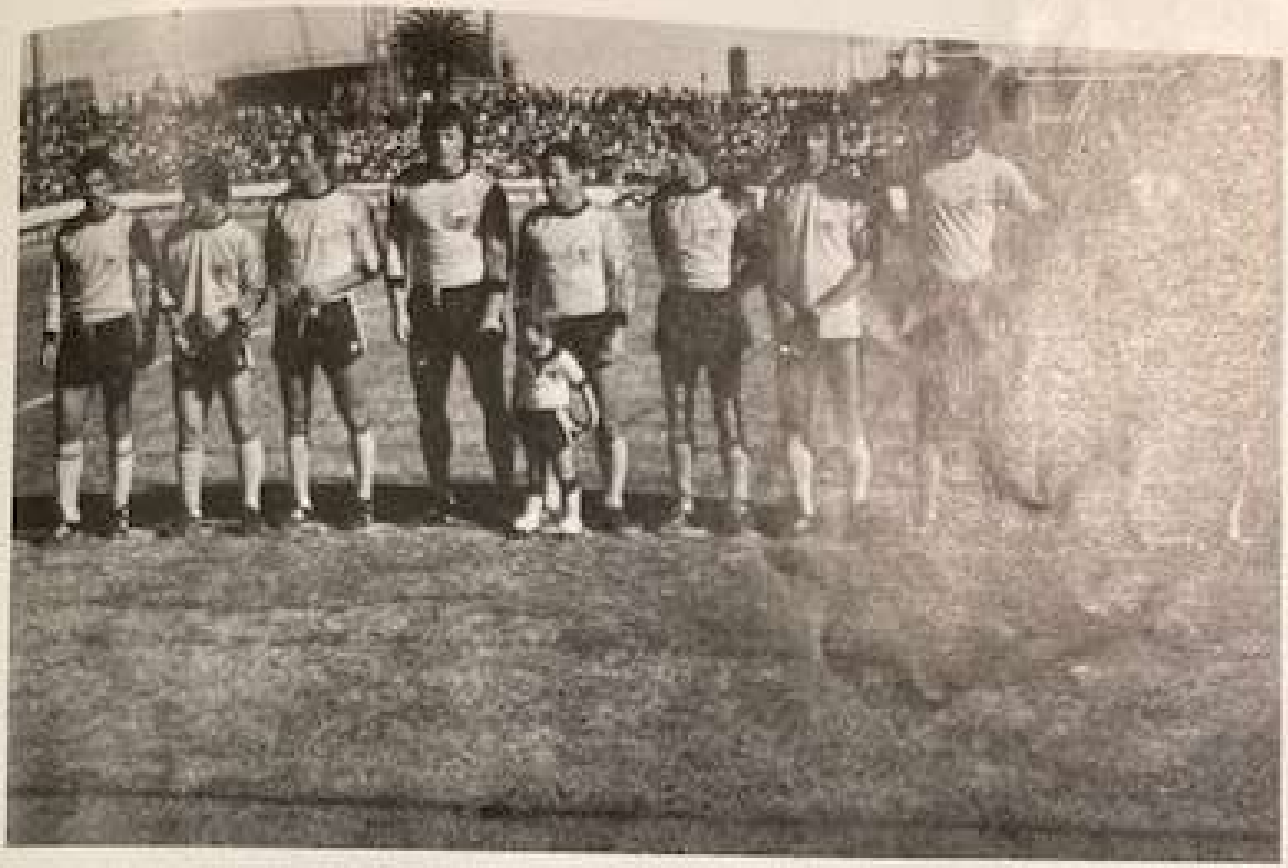
ive with his skills that he doesn't need sheer pace. When he crossed his balls, they were ALL crosses with geometric precision. Just fantastic stuff. Sure A.E.K. copped 5 goals in their net, but did they or didn't they ENTERTAIN??? But of course, I must give credit to the NSW. coach Leo Baumgartner who risked his reputation by giving these "kids" a go against these Greek magicians. He took up the challenge and played it wide open. It is a pity that because of Club pressures on coaches, they cannot afford to take such open risks for fear of defeat, thus defence becomes of paramount importance leading to negative soccer. Just a brief word on A.E.K.'s coach as well, I expect him to have an extremely difficult season with this Champion Club, for many reasons. The first is the language barrier that exists. Second to this, he is NOT strong on Club politics and will allow at times idiots to interfere with his progress. And lastly, I expect A.E.K. to to be continually "drained" by Greece's National Coach, Panagoulias, to supply players for his World Cup battles. The AEK coach Stessel, (Austrian) has excellent product knowledge, a good tactician and a first quality character. I wish him every success for the current Greek "protathlima."

Goal scorers: N.S.W. Raskopoulos, Krncevic 2, Beggs 2.
AEK: Bajevic 2, Intzoglou, Vladic, Ardizoglou.
Crowd 14,624.

Bajevic slotting A.E.K.'s penalty as he sends N.S.W.'s 'keeper Woodhouse the "wrong way". From left to right looking on are Degney, Ardizoglou, Raskopoulos, Intzoglou with Domazos partly obscurred by Bajevic.

The A.E.K. players' table at Sydney Olympic Club for the after match reception. Head of table left and right are Domazos and Christidis.

After the match Tour Leader Mr. Lalos does the Zorba Dance at Sydney Olympic Soccer Club. He is supported on the wings by Susan (Olympic supporter) and Domazos with glass in hand.



THE GREEK CHAMPIONS 1979. Sydney Sports Ground before kick-off

A.E.K.'s Nicos Christidis and Tasos Konstantinou with an Olympic soccer supporter.

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